**PATENT** 

TAIYO50.001APC

IN THE UNITED STATES TATE OF THE HOUSE THE HOUSE			
Applicant	Hachiro Seno	) Group Art Unit Unknown	4.203
Int'l Appl. No.:	PCT/JP00/03952	)	
Int'l Filing Date:	June 16, 2000	)	
For :	CATHETER	)	
Examiner :	Unknown	)	

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S.

National Phase Application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Prior to the first line of the specification on page 1, please insert the following paragraph:

Application PCT/JP00/03952, filed June 16, 2000, which claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 11/170025, filed June 16, 1999. The International Application was not published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.--

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-7 as follows:

- 3. (Amended) The catheter of Claim 1, further comprising a cuff for fixing said catheter to an abdominal portion.
- 4. (Amended) The catheter of Claim 1, wherein said groove is formed along an entire length of said tip end portion.